

Message Text

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 9690

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, OVIP, PK,

SUBJECT: VISIT OF CONGRESSMAN MURPHY

SUMMARY: MISSION BELIEVES THAT VERY SHORT VISIT OF CODEL MORGAN MURPHY AND MR. ROBERT WEIDRICH WAS WORTHWHILE FOR CODEL AND FOR OUR NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM. CODEL MET WITH HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIALS OF THREE IMPORTANT MINISTRIES OF INTERIOR, FINANCE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS. AMBASSADOR AND MISSION NARCOTICS TEAM BRIEFED CODEL. CONGRESSMAN MURPHY CLEARLY EXPRESSED GROWING CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC CONCERNS WITH US DOMESTIC DRUG SITUATION. END SUMMARY.

1. IN SPITE OF LAST MINUTE SCHEDULING AND SHORT VISIT, EMB WAS ABLE TO ARRANGE VERY USEFUL VISIT IN PAKISTAN FOR CONGRESSMAN MORGAN MURPHY AND ACCOMPANYING CHICAGO TRIBUNE REPORTER ROBERT WEIDRICH. CODEL, ACCOMPANIED BY KABUL SAIC HURLEY, TRAVELLED BY AUTO TO PESHAWAR ON SEPTEMBER 6 AND OVERNIGHTED AT RESIDENCE OF PESHAWAR CONSUL MAHER. NEXT MORNING, CODEL AND ISLAMABAD AND KABUL SAICS WERE FLOWN TO ISLAMABAD ON ODRP PLANE. FOLLOWING MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR AND MISSION TEAM BRIEFING, CODEL MET WITH INTERIOR MINISTRY ADDITIONAL SECRETARY M.Z.A. TEMURI AND CHAIRMAN, PNCB, RAOOF ALI. LATER

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MEETINGS WERE WITH FOREIGN AFFAIRS ADDITIONAL SECRETARY,

NAIAZ NAIK, AND WITH SECRETARY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS DIVISION OF MINISTRY OF FINANCE, AFTAB AHMAD KHAN. SAIC CARTER HOSTED LUNCHEON FOR CODEL AND MISSION PERSONNEL. CODEL WAS RETURNED TO KABUL AFTERNOON OF SEPTEMBER 7 BY ODRP PLANE.

2. CODEL MEETINGS ELICITED NO NEW INFORMATION NOR PROMISES FROM GOP OFFICIALS. SHORT MEETINGS AND A TIGHT SCHEDULE RESULTED IN GENERAL BRIEFINGS BY GOP OFFICIALS BUT THEY WERE ABLE TO EXPLAIN PROBLEMS SUCH AS THE LACK OF DIRECT FEDERAL ENFORCEMENT IN TRIBAL AREAS, THE HISTORIC CONCEPTUALIZATION OF OPIUM AS A REVENUE RATHER THAN AN ABUSE CONTROL MATTER AND THE LACK OF IDENTIFIED ECONOMIC ALTERNATIVES FOR POPPY GROWERS. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PNCB DID ADMIT TO GROWING CONCERN IN PAKISTAN OVER A POSSIBLE DOMESTIC ABUSE PROBLEM.

3. ONE OF THE MOST USEFUL ASPECTS OF THE VISIT WAS THAT CODEL WAS ABLE TO CLEARLY DESCRIBE TO GOP OFFICIALS THE GROWING PUBLIC AND CONGRESSIONAL CONCERNS ON DRUG ABUSE. CODEL TOLD EVERYONE THAT GROWING DRUG ABUSE AND RELATED CRIME IN THE US WERE LEADING TO PUBLIC PRESSURES WHICH NO SENATOR OR CONGRESSMAN COULD IGNORE. HE BELIEVED THAT WITH MEXICAN CONTROL ACTIVITIES BEGINNING TO SHOW FAVORABLE RESULTS, BETTER ORGANIZED AND FINANCED INTERNATIONAL CRIMINALS WOULD SOON TURN TO PAKISTAN AND AFGHANISTAN FOR SUPPLIES OF OPIATES. HE STATED THAT NARCOTICS CONTROL WAS A VERY IMPORTANT FACTOR BEHIND MILITARY EMBARGO ACTION CONGRESS TOOK AGAINST TURKEY. WE BELIEVE THAT THE GOP GOT THE MESSAGE CLEARLY THIS TIME. NIAZ NAIK TOLD CODEL THAT THE VISIT WAS LIKELY TO STIMULATE MORE GOP NARCOTICS CONTROL ACTIVITY.

4. MISSION HOPES THAT STATE AND DEA WILL PASS TO CONGRESSMAN MURPHY OUR SPECIAL APPRECIATION. WE BELIEVE THAT HE MADE A REAL CONTRIBUTION BY EXPLAINING AT FIRST HAND CONGRESSIONAL CONCERN IN THIS AREA INCLUDING THE THREAT OF AID CUTOFF. CODEL AND WEIDRICH WERE PARTICULARLY UNDERSTANDING OF OUR SCHEDULING PROBLEMS AND SEEMED APPRECIATIVE OF WHAT WAS DONE FOR THEM. CONGRESSMAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MURPHY SAID HE PLANNED TO RECOMMEND SIMILAR TRIPS BY HIS COLLEAGUES WHICH WE WOULD WELCOME WITH PERHAPS SLIGHTLY MORE ADVANCE NOTICE.
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